## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hirofumi FUKUOKA et al. : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: Division of 09/773,677 : Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION OF

SILICON OXIDE POWDER

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.